

CLAIMS

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5 1. A method of using a web-browser to pass information from a first web-entity to one of a plurality of second web-entities, said method comprising the steps of:-

- 10 (i) receiving a pre-specified address of a redirection server, together with additional information, from the first web-entity at the web-browser;
- (ii) forwarding an address of the second web-entity to the redirection server from the web-browser such that the redirection server redirects the web-browser to the second web-entity and
- (iii) passing the additional information from the web-browser to the second web-entity.

15 2. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first web-entity is a web-based information system.

3. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the second web-entity is a web-server arranged to redirect the web-browser.

4. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first web-entity does not require access to information about the location of the second web-entity.

20 5. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said step (ii) comprises forwarding the additional information to the redirection server together with the address of the second web-entity.

25 6. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the additional information comprises a telephone number and the second web-entity is a node in a telecommunications network.

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7. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the additional information comprises television programme information and wherein the second web-entity is a video recorder.
- 5 8. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the address of the second web-entity is forwarded to the redirection server in a cookie from the web-browser.
9. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said additional information comprises instructions for an action to be performed at the second web entity.
10. A web-based information system arranged to provide items of information, said web-based information system comprising:-
- 10 (i) an input arranged to receive instructions from a web-browser such that an item of information from the database may be accessed and selected;
- 15 (ii) an output arranged to forward a pre-specified address of a redirection server together with an item of information accessed from the database to the web-browser.
11. A web-based information system as claimed in claim 10 wherein said database of items comprises telephone numbers.
12. A method of operation of a web-based information system which is arranged to provide items of information said method comprising the steps of:-
- 20 (i) receiving instructions from a web-browser such that an item of information from the database is accessed and selected;
- (ii) forwarding a pre-specified address of a redirection server together with the accessed, selected item of information to the web-browser.
- 25 13. A communications network comprising a web-based information system as claimed in claim 10.

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14. A communications network as claimed in claim 13 which further comprises at least one redirection server.
15. A web server for redirecting a web-browser said web server comprising:
 - (i) an input arranged to receive from the web-browser an address of a web-entity together with additional information; and
 - (ii) a processor arranged to redirect the web-browser to the web-entity such that in use the web-browser may send the additional information to the web-entity.
16. A web server as claimed in claim 15 wherein said input is arranged to receive a cookie from the web-browser, said cookie containing the address of the web-entity.
17. A web server as claimed in claim 15 wherein the web entity is itself a web server for redirecting a web-browser.
18. A computer program for controlling a web server in order to redirect a web-browser, said computer program being arranged to control the computer program such that :-
 - (i) an address of a web-entity is received from the web-browser together with additional information; and
 - (ii) a processor redirects the web-browser to the web-entity such that in use, the web-browser may send the additional information to the web-entity.
19. A method of using a web-browser to generate cookies for each of an information receiver, and a redirection server, said method comprising the steps of:-
 - (i) accessing the information receiver using the web-browser; and

- (ii) automatically redirecting the web-browser to the redirection server.
20. A method as claimed in claim 19 which further comprises repeating said step (ii) of automatically redirecting for one or more additional redirection servers.

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